

TO PLACE IN TRUST STATUS CERTAIN LANDS ON THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX RESERVATION IN NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA

August 11, 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. NEUBERGER, from the Committee on Interior and Insular
Affairs, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 417]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 417) to place in trust status certain lands on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota and South Dakota, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 417 is to donate to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota an 80-acre tract of land located within the exterior boundaries of the reservation. The land in question was purchased by the United States from an Indian allottee for \$1,000 in 1947 for use in connection with the Standing Rock Indian Boarding School. There are no improvements on the land.

The 80 acres is no longer needed for school purposes and the tribe has requested that it be given the land in trust status.

The reports of the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of the Budget recommending enactment of the proposed legislation are set forth below:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., June 17, 1959.

Hon. JAMES E. MURRAY,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MURRAY: Your committee has requested a report on S. 417, a bill to place in trust status certain lands on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota and South Dakota.

We have no objection to the enactment of the bill.

The bill donates to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe approximately 80 acres of land on the reservation that are owned by the United States.

The land was originally allotted to Joseph Pleets, and a trust patent was issued to him on June 3, 1910. Joseph Pleets conveyed the land to his wife, Mrs. Augustine Pleets, by restricted deed on November 8, 1911. The United States purchased the land from the wife on August 20, 1947. The purchase price was \$1,000.

The deed to the United States contains the following language:

"To the United States of America to be used for the benefit of the Standing Rock Indian Boarding School so long as such school exists, and thereafter for such similar purposes as the Secretary of the Interior may direct pursuant to law."

There are no improvements on the land.

The land is excess to the needs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the tribe has asked that the land be given to it in a trust status. Whether the title to the federally donated land should be taken by the tribe in trust or in an unrestricted status is a subject on which we express no opinion. Congress has sometimes provided for the one type of title and sometimes for the other.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised us that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

ROGER ERNST,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., June 10, 1959.

HON. JAMES E. MURRAY,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your letter of January 20, 1959, requesting the views of the Bureau of the Budget on S. 417, a bill to place in trust status certain lands on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota and South Dakota.

The purpose of the bill is to donate about 80 acres of land owned by the United States to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. The land was acquired by the United States for school purposes and is now excess to the needs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It is located within the reservation and the Tribe has requested the donation.

The Bureau of the Budget would have no objection to enactment of S. 417.

Sincerely yours,

PHILLIP S. HUGHES,
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference.

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